

ClaimsWhat is claimed is:

- 1 1. A computer controlled display system for tracking the  
2 development of complex software products having a  
3 plurality of developmental lines comprising:  
4 means for setting in each of said plurality of  
5 developmental lines, a sequence of checkpoints;  
6 means for tracking each of said developmental lines  
7 to determine the reached checkpoints; and  
8 means for displaying said plurality of developmental  
9 lines and indicating said reached checkpoints.
- 1 2. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 further including:  
3 means for modifying said developmental lines and  
4 said checkpoints; and  
5 means for displaying said modifications.
- 1 3. The computer controlled display system of claim 2  
2 further including means for displaying at each of said  
3 checkpoints, a set of developmental attributes for said  
4 checkpoint.
- 1 4. The computer controlled display system of claim 3  
2 further including:  
3 means for modifying said developmental attributes  
4 for each of said checkpoints; and  
5 means for displaying said modifications at each of  
6 said checkpoints.

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1 5. The computer controlled display system of claim 3  
2 wherein said developmental attributes include actions  
3 performed in said software product development.

1 6. The computer controlled display system of claim 5  
2 wherein said means for modifying said actions switch said  
3 actions to other of said developmental lines.

1 7. The computer controlled display system of claim 2  
2 wherein:

3 said means for tracking are remote from said means  
4 for displaying,

5 and said system further includes:

6 means for storing, in association with said means  
7 for displaying, the data tracked by said means for  
8 tracking; and

9 means for communicating the data tracked to said  
10 means for storing.

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1 8. A method for tracking the development of complex  
2 software products having a plurality of developmental  
3 lines on a computer controlled display comprising:  
4 setting in each of said plurality of developmental  
5 lines, a sequence of checkpoints;  
6 tracking each of said developmental lines to  
7 determine the reached checkpoints; and  
8 displaying said plurality of developmental lines and  
9 indicating said reached checkpoints.

1 9. The method for tracking of claim 8 further including  
2 the steps of:  
3 modifying said developmental lines and said  
4 checkpoints; and  
5 displaying said modifications.

1 10. The method for tracking of claim 9 further including  
2 the step of displaying at each of said checkpoints, a set  
3 of developmental attributes for said checkpoint.

1 11. The method for tracking of claim 10 further  
2 including the steps of:  
3 modifying said developmental attributes of a  
4 plurality of said checkpoints; and  
5 displaying said modifications at each of said  
6 modified checkpoints.

1 12. The method for tracking of claim 10 wherein said  
2 developmental attributes include actions performed in  
3 said software product development.

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- 1 13. The method for tracking of claim 12 wherein said  
2 step of modifying said actions switches said actions to  
3 other of said developmental lines.
- 1 14. The method for tracking of claim 9 wherein:  
2 said step of tracking is carried out remote from  
3 said displaying step,  
4 and further including the steps of:  
5 storing, in association with said displaying step,  
6 the data tracked in said tracking step; and  
7 communicating the data tracked to said storing step.

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- 1 15. A computer program having code recorded on a  
2 computer readable medium for tracking, on a computer  
3 controlled display, the development of complex software  
4 products having a plurality of developmental lines  
5 comprising:  
6 means for setting in each of said plurality of  
7 developmental lines, a sequence of checkpoints;  
8 means for tracking each of said developmental lines  
9 to determine the reached checkpoints; and  
10 means for displaying said plurality of developmental  
11 lines and indicating said reached checkpoints.
- 1 16. The computer program of claim 15 further including:  
2 means for modifying said developmental lines and  
3 said checkpoints; and  
4 means for displaying said modifications.
- 1 17. The computer program of claim 16 further including  
2 means for displaying at each of said checkpoints, a set  
3 of developmental attributes for said checkpoint.
- 1 18. The computer program of claim 17 further including:  
2 means for modifying said developmental attributes  
3 for each of said checkpoints; and  
4 means for displaying said modifications at each of  
5 said checkpoints.
- 1 19. The computer program of claim 17 wherein said  
2 developmental attributes include actions performed in  
3 said software product development.

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1 20. The computer program of claim 19 wherein said means  
2 for modifying said actions switch said actions to other  
3 of said developmental lines.

1 21. The computer program of claim 16 wherein:  
2 said means for tracking are remote from said means  
3 for displaying,  
4 and said system further includes:  
5 means for storing, in association with said means  
6 for displaying, the data tracked by said means for  
7 tracking; and  
8 means for communicating the data tracked to said  
9 means for storing.

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1 22. A computer controlled display system for tracking  
2 the building of a program product from a functional  
3 implementation stage to a complete integrated program  
4 product comprising:

5 a plurality of developmental lines respectively  
6 corresponding to each of a plurality of program  
7 components to be integrated into said complete program  
8 product;

9 means for setting in each of said plurality of  
10 developmental lines, a sequence of checkpoints;

11 means for tracking each of said developmental lines  
12 to determine the reached checkpoints; and

13 means for displaying said plurality of developmental  
14 lines and indicating said reached checkpoints.

1 23. The computer controlled display system of claim 22  
2 further including means for displaying at each of said  
3 checkpoints, a set of attributes for said checkpoint  
4 related to the compatibility functions of said checkpoint  
5 line.

1 24. The computer controlled display system of claim 23  
2 further including:

3 means for modifying said attributes for each of said  
4 checkpoints; and

5 means for displaying said modifications at each of  
6 said checkpoints.

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- 1 25. A method for tracking, on a computer controlled  
2 display, the building of a program product from a  
3 functional implementation stage to a complete integrated  
4 program product comprising:  
5       setting up a plurality of developmental lines  
6       respectively corresponding to each of a plurality of  
7       program components to be integrated into said complete  
8       program product;  
9       setting up in each of said plurality of  
10      developmental lines, a sequence of checkpoints;  
11      tracking each of said developmental lines to  
12      determine the reached checkpoints; and  
13      displaying said plurality of developmental lines and  
14      indicating said reached checkpoints.
- 1 26. The method for tracking of claim 25 further  
2 including the step of displaying at each of said  
3 checkpoints, a set of attributes for said checkpoint  
4 related to the compatibility functions of said checkpoint  
5 line.
- 1 27. The method for tracking of claim 26 further  
2 including the steps of:  
3       modifying said attributes for each of said  
4       checkpoints; and  
5       displaying said modifications at each of said  
6       checkpoints.

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1 28. A computer program having code recorded on a  
2 computer readable medium for tracking, on a computer  
3 controlled display, the building of a program product  
4 from a functional implementation stage to a complete  
5 integrated program product comprising:  
6 means for tracking a plurality of developmental  
7 lines respectively corresponding to each of a plurality  
8 of program components to be integrated into said complete  
9 program product;  
10 means for setting in each of said plurality of  
11 developmental lines, a sequence of checkpoints;  
12 means for determining the reached checkpoints in  
13 each of said plurality of developmental lines; and  
14 means for displaying said plurality of developmental  
15 lines and indicating said reached checkpoints.

1 29. The computer program of claim 28 further including  
2 means for displaying at each of said checkpoints, a set  
3 of attributes for said checkpoint related to the  
4 compatibility functions of said checkpoint line.

1 30. The computer program of claim 29 further including:  
2 means for modifying said attributes for each of said  
3 checkpoints; and  
4 means for displaying said modifications at each of  
5 said checkpoints.

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